

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A holographic recording medium comprising:

two transparent substrates;

a holographic recording material layer sandwiched therebetween; and

a spacer integrally embedded in this holographic recording material layer, the spacer being composed of ~~at least either a large number of beads or fibers~~ for regulating a gap between the two transparent substrates,

wherein the spacer is formed in a lattice configuration so as to form lattice cells, the holographic material layer inside the lattice cells forming recording areas arranged around a recording area of the holographic recording material layer.

2. (Currently Amended) The holographic recording medium according to ~~claim 1~~
claim 11, wherein

the spacer is formed in a continuous lattice configuration so as to form lattice cells, and each of the recording areas is formed in a corresponding the recording area is formed in each lattice cell.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The holographic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein

~~the spacer is composed of a plurality of fibers, and the fibers form at least one connection gap therebetween for each of the recording areas.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The holographic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein

~~the spacer is composed of fibers, and necked parts for letting a liquid~~
holographic recording material in and out of the ~~recording area~~
~~recording areas are formed in~~
peripheries of the fibers in a longitudinally intermittent fashion.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a holographic recording medium, comprising:

a step of forming a frame for surrounding at least one recording area on a transparent substrate;

a step of injecting a liquid holographic recording material into the frame;

a step of arranging a spacer composed of at least either a large number of beads or fibers along the frame before detaching the frame from the holographic recording material;

a step of attaching the transparent substrate to one press stage with a layer of the holographic recording material upward;

a press step of pressing a second transparent substrate against the layer of the holographic recording ~~medium~~
~~material~~ by using another press stage via an elastic member;

and

a step of curing at least a periphery of the layer of the holographic recording material in this pressed state.

7. (Original) The method for manufacturing a holographic recording medium according to claim 6, comprising the step of arranging another spacer between the spacers arranged along the frame, thereby defining a plurality of recording areas in an area surrounded by the spacers arranged along the frame.

8.-10. (Canceled)

11. (New) A holographic recording medium comprising:

two transparent substrates;

a holographic recording material layer sandwiched therebetween and including recording areas; and

a spacer integrally embedded in the holographic recording material layer, the spacer being composed of a large number of beads for regulating a gap between the two transparent substrates,

wherein the spacer is arranged around each of the recording areas of the holographic recording material layer.